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direction between said [desired time and said contiguous]
first and second time[, and respective sizes of respective
data items correspond to intrinsic times of those respective
data items].

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-20, 22-34, 110-114, 125, 126 and 128-134 remain in this application. Claims 5, 22 and 112 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record.

Claims 1, 5, 22, 110, 112 and 125 are independent.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1, 110, 111, 125, 126 and 128.

In the Office Action, Claims 5-20, 22-34, 112-114 and 129-134 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 5,555,354 (Strasnick et al.).

Independent Claim 5 is directed to a time-series data display method for displaying accumulated time-series data items. First data items associated with a first time in which the first data items have been created are displayed in a first size. Second data items associated with a second time, which is contiguous to the first time, and in which the second data items have been created, are displayed in a

second size, which is different from the first size so that a change of size between the first and second sizes corresponds to a temporal direction between the first and second time.

Claims 22 and 112 are corresponding method and program-product claims, respectively.

An advantage to Claims 5, 22 and 112 is that the size of a data item corresponds to a time in which the data item was created. That is, data items having the same size are connected to the same creation time. Therefore, it is possible to determine a relationship in inherent time when data items were accumulated from a relationship in the size between the displayed data items.

As understood by Applicants, *Strasnick* relates to a system for navigating within a three-dimensional landscape. In this system, data items having a hierarchical structure are displayed on a screen so that linkages of data times in the hierarchical structure are recognized. (See *Strasnick*, Figs. 1, 2A and 2B.)

Applicants submit that *Strasnick* does not teach or suggest that first data items are created in a first time and second data items are created, in a second size, at a second time, which is contiguous to the first time the first and second sizes corresponds to a temporal direction between the first and second time, as recited in Applicants' Claim 5.

For at least this reason, Claims 5, 22 and 112 are each thought to be clearly allowable over *Strasnick*.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the rejected independent claims, discussed above. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims under rejection in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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